## *An Extract of a Letter of* M. de. S. Maurice *M. D. to* M. de la Cloſure, *a Phyſitian of* Aubeterre. *of the Twenty Sixth of* April 1682: *Concerning the formation of a* Fœtus *in the* Teſticle. *Taken out of the* Journal de Medicine *Publiſht* Jan. 1683. *by* M. l'Abbe dela Roque *at* Paris.

I think Sr. that after what lately happened to Madam *de Saint Mere*, we ought no longer to doubt of the Formation of the *Fœtus* in the *Teſticles* of Women, and conſequently of the Exiſtence of *Egs*. This Lady whoſe Merit is known to you, had been brought to bed Eight times as proſperouſly as might be, and after having continued Five years without being with Child, in ſo much that ſhe thought her ſelf freed from thoſe ſorts of Labours, about Three months ſince ſhe ſuſpected herſelf to be fallen into that condition again; becauſe having never failed of being very regular, and not finding her ſelf ill, ſhe was more than a Month without her ordinary relief. But whilſt in this ſtate ſhe had a little ſhow, which ſcarce left her wholy during the two laſt Months of her Life, and which ſhe paſt nevertheleſs without much trouble, ſo that ſhe thought her ſelf to be ſecure, as to the point of her being with Child, but that the 22d Inſtant, after ſhe was up in the Morning in very good health and had been writing about an hour, ſhe fell into Faintings, which made her loſe

abſolutely her *Pulſe* from that Moment without depriving her of her Underſtanding or Speech.

*M. de Saint Mere* who took this faintneſs at firſt for an effect of *Vapours*, was not Allarmed at it, till feeling her Arme, he found her without any *Pulſe*. This privation joyned with a mortal Paleneſs amuſing him, he ſent a man to intreat me to go and ſee her.

I came to her about Eight of the Clock in the Evening, I found her cold and wholly without any *Pulſe*; her Countenance deadiſh and covered with a clammy and cold ſweat, haveing ſtill an entire Underſtanding and her Speech ſtrong.

She complained of a great *Colick* in the Region of the right groine, which terminated at the Reines: This *Colick* was ſo violent, that as I was going to touch the place, ſhe prayed me not to preſs it, and told me I ſhould make her fall into a Swoon.

In a moment after, ſhe felt all the *Præludium*'s of an imminent Travel; ſhe called her Chirurgeon and dyed in his Arms ſaying, *I am Delivering, I am Delivering*; there appearing outwardly neither diſtillation, nor flooding, nor any mark of this diſorder.

A Death ſo little expected amazed every body, and ſupprized ſo much *M. de St. Mere*, that he was deſirous to know, whether the opening the body would not diſcover the *Cauſe*: M. *de la Cheſe* a Chirurgeon was made Choiſe of to do it, and I was prayed to aſſiſt *Meſſieurs de Montauzon* Advocate of *Perigueux*, *de la Porte* Gentleman of M. *le Comte de Taleran*, *du Vair* Apothecary to *St. Meres* and two *Valets de Chambre* of the houſe, deſired to be preſent at the opening, and this is what we found.

As ſoon as the *Chirurgeon* had opened the Integuments of the belly we ſaw in the *Epigaſtrick* Region all the Entrals floating in Blood: I cauſed Two Pound to be taken forth with a ſpoon; to avoid changing the ſituation of the parts, after which ſeeing that there remained in the right Flank

a prodigious quantity which was coagulated, I tryed my ſelf to take it out with my hand, but Judge Sr. how I was Surprized, when among the firſt Clots which I drew forth, I found a little *Fœtus* about the bigneſs of a Thumb, and a Third leſs in length, all very diſtinctly formed, and in which was manifeſtly diſcovered the Sex of a Boy but naked and without covering. I put this *Fœtus* on a Plate and ſhewed it to all that were preſent, and being impatient to know from whence it came, I applyed my ſelf with all exactneſs to examin all the neighbouring parts of the place whence I took it. Two fingers from this place I found the right *Cornu* of the *Womb*; but my amazment was doubled, when I found the *Teſticle* torn longwaies and thro the middle on the ſide, that it did not touch the *Tuba*, and all its cavity full of clotted blood. I no longer doubted, but this was the place where this Infant was formed, and I conceived that having acquired in this place a growth too great to be able to fall in time; and having continued to grow there, without being able to come forth, it had at length broken its Priſon by ſtretching it.

I was confirmed in my opinion when comparing this *Teſticle* with the left, I found it at leaſt four times bigger its greatneſs approaching that of an Hens Egg; and the left being not greater, than a little Cheſnut; it was all red without and within, beſides the clotted blood that it contained; whereas the left was pale and full of little grains of the colour and conſiſtency of yellow Tallow.

I examined the *Tube* on the right ſide; and I could not find that this Infant had ever entred there; it was in all things like the left *Tube*.

Laſtly I examined the Body of the *Womb* with all the Care and Exactneſs that might be, it appeared to me every where without any rent, and in a ſtate purely natural: I only obſerved, that it was a little bigger and ſofter than it is found in Women who dye without being with Child: it was all as Dr. *Harvy* has deſcribed it, in the firſt month

month of *Pregnancy*. I cauſed a probe to be put into its Cavity by the *Vagina*, and then to be cut open, and I found not the leaſt ſigne of *Conception*. Indeed the Veſſels of the interior membrane appeared to me full of Blood, and varicous as it were, which doubtleſs was the cauſe of that little ſhow of Blood, as before mentioned.

Tho it were needleſs to ſearch elſewhere for the *Death* of this Lady; we nevertheleſs examined all the other parts both of the Belly, and of the Breaſt, and found them all well in order, and in a ſtate purely natural.

I leave you now to judge Sr. what may be concluded from all this; ſince no perſon can draw better than your ſelf the conſequences, which neceſſarily follow from this *Phænomenon*.

*Authors* ſpeak of certain *Fœtus*'s found in the *Tubes*; and of others that have been found in the *Cavity* of the belly, the *Womb*, nor the *Tubes* being any way torn: but I do not think that any perſon hitherto has been able to ſhew, that the conception is made in the *Teſticle* or *Ovarium*, as it ſeems to me that the fact, which I have now related to you manifeſtly demonſtrates. and tis this which has made us think hitherto that the Opinion of *Egs* had hitherto need of *Proofs* to ſupport it.

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